APPENDIX B – COMMUNITY INFORMATION RELEASES

Release Date: Monday 17 August 2009

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

PORT BAJOOL TO ENTER RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY

Port Bajool has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Transfield Services to jointly develop the Arriga Wind Farm South West of Mareeba, Tropical North Queensland.

Preliminary studies of the 2700 hectare Arriga Wind Farm site owned by Port Bajool suggest the site could provide up to 130MW of renewable wind energy for Tropical North Queensland electricity users.

Port Bajool Director, John Morris said today "The development of the site has real potential to provide significant local generation of sustainable energy so essential for the economic development of TNQ. Power transmitted long distances from central Queensland has a significant marginal loss factor which considerably increases our electricity costs in the north. As well the project will provide local jobs and encourage diversification of the regional economy."

Mr Morris said Transfield Service's experience and expertise in the wind-energy sector along with the obvious synergies of their nearby Windy Hill and High Roads developments made them the ideal partner to develop the site. "Port Bajool's local presence and development experience in the area will work well to complement Transfield's technical know-how and intimate understanding of the sector" Mr. Morris said.

Port Bajool is currently involved in a number of other land developments on the Tablelands including Oaky Creek Farms and Springmount Park, which are quite close to the Arriga Wind Farm site as well as Sunbird Park in nearby Mareeba. In association with Lascorp Development Group, Port Bajool is also presently finalizing approval applications for the establishment of a Woolworths shopping centre on the Kennedy Highway, Mareeba.

Port Bajool and its directors, John Morris and Jim Noli, have a combined 50 years of business and development experience in the North Queensland area. Some prominent past projects include tourism developments in Port Douglas such as Treetops & the resorts now known as Sabaya & Rendezvous, Reef Links Golf Course and the Rainforest Habitat as well as a large number of residential property developments.

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For more information contact
Wendy Morris Tel 0418 717 280
info@portbajool.com.au www.portbajool.com.au

Mt Emerald Wind Farm
Community Newsletter

Issue 1 – March 2011

Welcome to the first edition of the Mt Emerald Wind Farm newsletter. Transfield Services and Port Bajool have formed a joint company, Mt Emerald Wind Farm Pty Ltd, that is currently assessing the potential for a wind farm to be developed on the plateau adjacent to Mt Emerald near Oaky Creek west of Walkamin. The project is in the assessment phase and this newsletter is the first in a series that will keep you informed of progress.

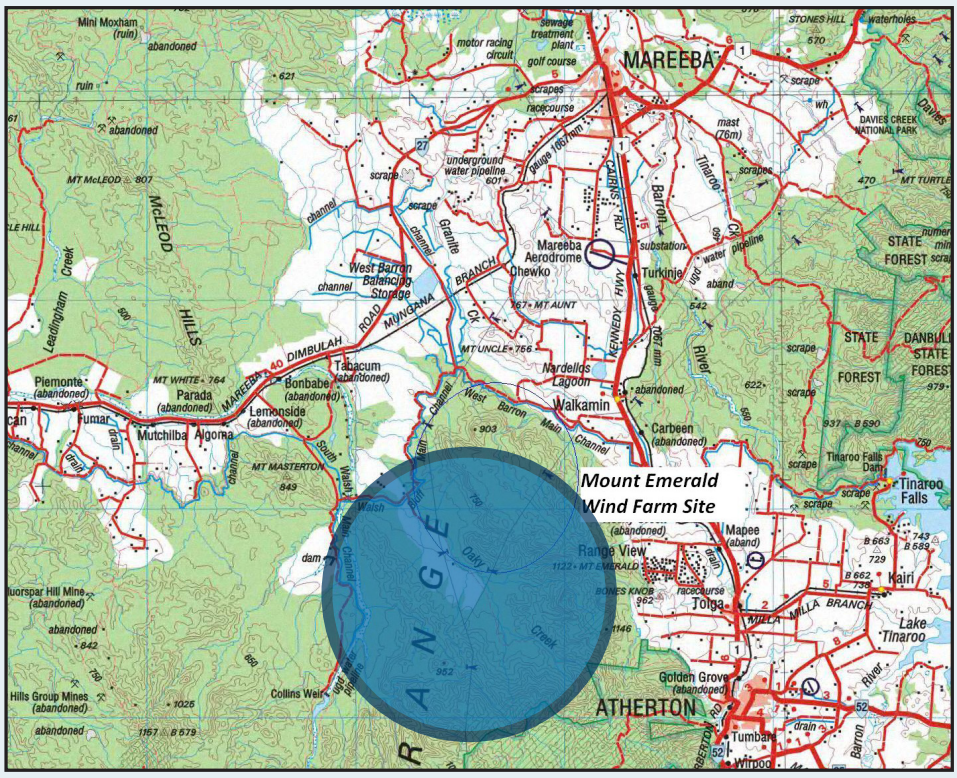
We also invite those interested in the project to attend a community open house. The details are:

Mareeba Heritage Centre
345 Byrnes Street
Mareeba
Thursday 31st March 2011, between 4pm and 7pm

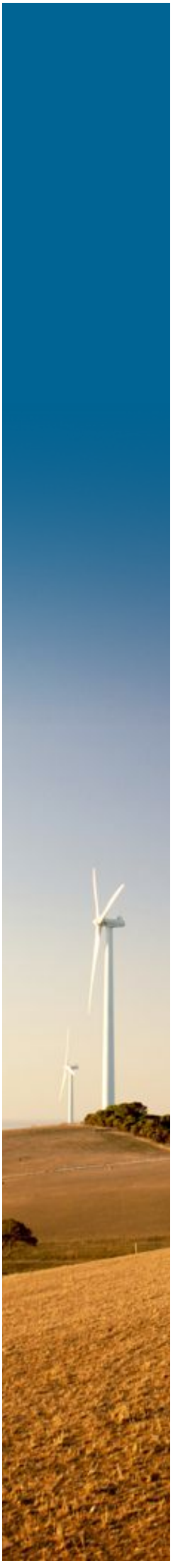
Community members are welcome to drop in at any time to discuss the project with Mt Emerald Wind Farm representatives.

The project

The current proposal is to install around 70 to 80 wind turbines on land of some 2400 hectares, whose orientation and elevation make it ideal for this purpose. The site land is a rough plateau (el. 900m) elevated some 300m above the surrounding plains and is comprised of largely sparse natural scrub land with some rocky outcrops. The property is currently not used for any particular farming activity. The surrounding land is predominantly used for grazing and agriculture. The local landmark, Mount Emerald (el. 1122m) is located roughly 2km from the southern boundary of the site.



Highlighted above is the proposed site of the wind farm.



Why a wind farm?

A recent report has clearly identified the need for locally generated power for the region of Far North Queensland. This region does not have access to more traditional power sources such as coal or gas but rather tends to rely on power imports from the south to supplement local generation from hydro and sugar mills (bagasse). Further renewable power such as wind farms, is seen to complement the existing generation of the area.

Recent wind resource mapping has shown that Mt Emerald has an excellent wind resource, comparable to some of the best in the country. The site is also traversed by a major powerline allowing for a simple and cost effective connection into the electricity grid.

Wind farms produce clean energy, have minimal environmental impact and generate jobs and income in regional areas. In addition, this project would contribute to the Australian Government's target of 20 per cent renewable energy by 2020.

The proposed project represents a $550 million investment in the region and has the potential to supply the annual electricity needs of approximately 75,000 Tablelands and Cairns region homes.

What opportunities are there for community input into this proposal?

Transfield Services have a proud history of developing positive long-term relationships with the communities in which we work, as does Port Bajool in the local area.

We see this is a two-way process. Gaining local knowledge and understanding community views will be important considerations as we continue to undertake the various environmental and other studies culminating in a Development Application to Tablelands Regional Council in the early part of this year.

In turn, Mt Emerald Wind Farm is committed to involving the community throughout the development process and we undertake to provide information in a timely and transparent manner. We expect that the local community will have a range of views about this project and we anticipate that these views will allow us to develop the best project possible.

There are a number of ways that you can gain information on the project and contribute to the development process, including:

- a community "open house" to allow a two-way exchange of information between the proponents and the local community;
- regular community newsletters, such as this one, throughout the development phase;
- one-on-one meetings;
- correspondence via telephone, email or letter to the Mt Emerald Wind Farm Project Manager (details below); and
- Mt Emerald Wind Farm wind farm website – **www.windfarms.net.au**

Mt Emerald Wind Farm has also made a commitment to Tablelands Regional Council and other key stakeholders to keep them informed throughout the project.

What are we investigating?

Over the next six months, Mt Emerald Wind Farm will investigate the potential impact of the wind farm on your environment and community. This includes:

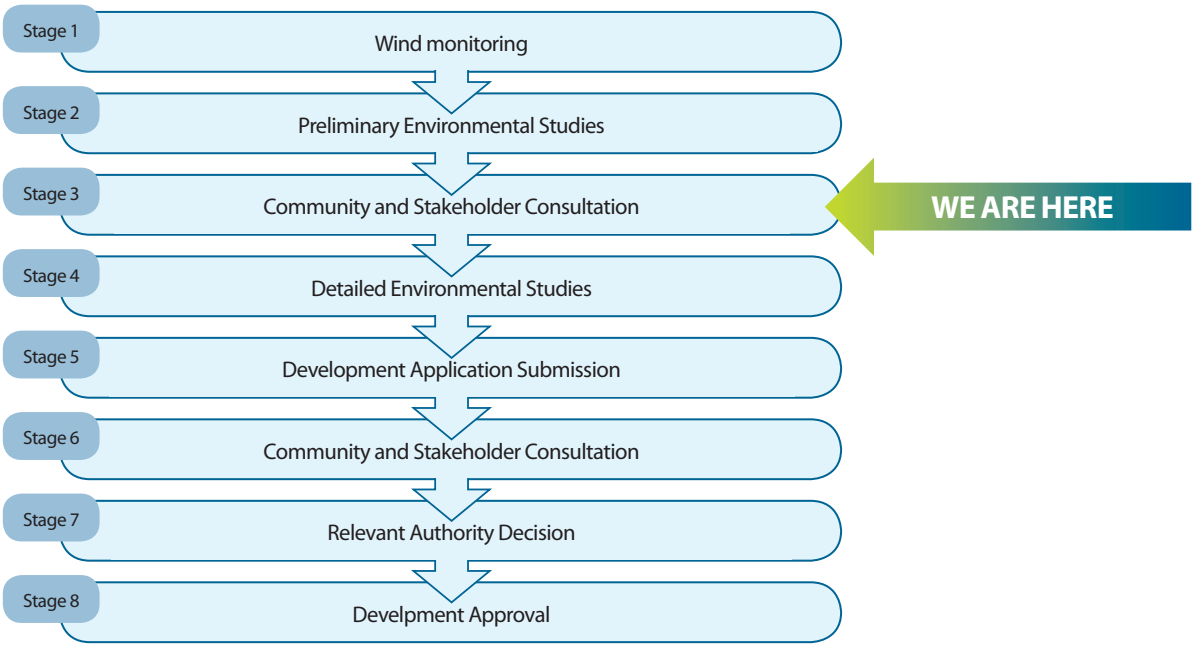
- flora and fauna assessments, including the potential for impacts on birds and bats;
- noise assessment to understand the potential impacts on neighbouring residences;
- visual impact assessment, including preparation of photomontages;
- aeronautical impact assessment;
- telecommunications interference studies; and
- cultural heritage significance, including consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

The scope of this work will be guided by the Environmental Protection and Heritage Council National Wind Farm Development Guidelines (Draft - July 2010), and best practice.

These investigations, together with the information and views gathered from community and government, will be considered in the design of the wind farm and the associated access tracks, substation and transmission line.

What is the planning process?

Following the investigations, and consultation with the community and government agencies, Mt Emerald Wind Farm will commence the planning process.



Who is Mt Emerald Wind Farm?

Mt Emerald Wind Farm is a company with equal shares held between Transfield Services and Port Bajool.

Port Bajool, with directors John Morris and Jim Noli, have developed property in the Port Douglas and Tablelands areas for over 30 years. They remain the major landholders at Oaky Creek Farms and are keen to ensure that all neighbours views are considered and that the wind farm makes a positive contribution to the neighbourhood as well as the general Cairns/Tablelands region.

Transfield Services is an Australian-owned company and is a leading provider of operations, maintenance, asset and project management services. The company – with a workforce in excess of 28,000 employees - works across diverse industries including mining, hydrocarbons, transport, water, energy, telecommunications and defence.

Transfield Services owns and operates a portfolio of power stations across Australia with a total generating capacity of 1,000 megawatts (MW). The company owns and operates three wind farms, including the Windy Hill project which has been operating successfully in the region for over 10 years, and has an interest in a number of wind farm development sites. These assets and sites were acquired from Queensland Government-owned Stanwell Corporation in December 2007.

Transfield also has extensive experience in project development and delivery across Australia, and has fostered close relationships with landowners and host communities. The company has an enviable track record of working with communities to develop solutions to community issues.

For more information

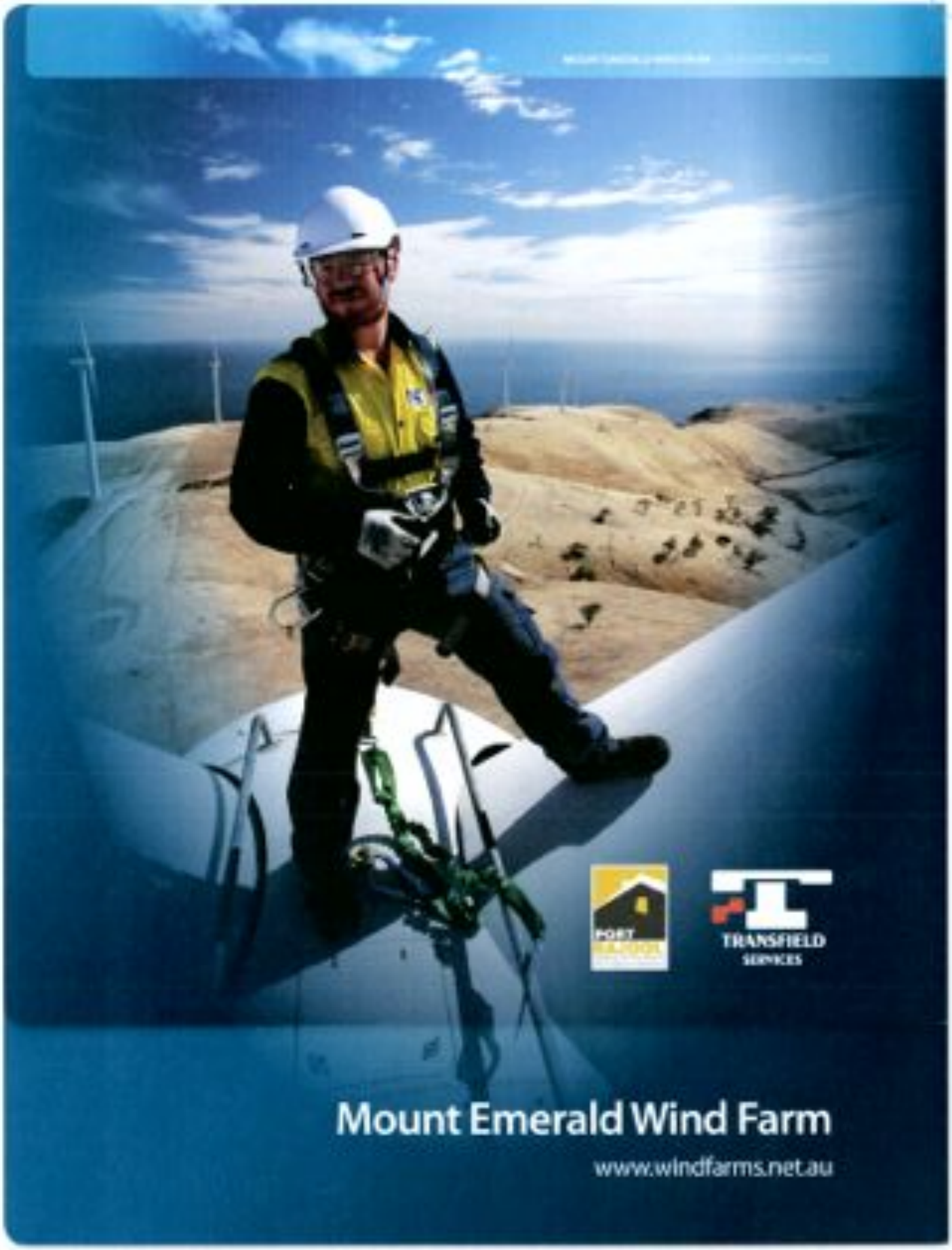
We invite you to attend our community open house on Thursday 31st March 2011, or to contact Mt Emerald Wind Farm Project Manager, Terry Johannesen on **(07) 3248 8765** or **johannesent@transfieldservices.com** with any questions.

Information about wind energy is available at **www.windfarms.net.au**

PORT BAJOOL
creating communities on the tropical tablelands

TRANSFIELD SERVICES

Transfield Services is a leading international provider of operations, maintenance, asset management and project management services



renewable energy

Transfield Services home grown and growing

Who is Mt Emerald Wind Farm?

Mt Emerald Wind Farm is a company with equal shareholdings between Transfield Services and Port Bajool.

Port Bajool, with directors John Morris and Jim Nott, have developed property in the Port Douglas and Tablelands area for over 40 years. They remain the major landholders at Oaky Creek Farms and are keen to ensure that all neighbouring views are considered and that the wind farm makes a positive contribution to the neighbourhood as well as the general Cairns/Tablelands region.

Transfield Services is an Australian-owned company and is a leading provider of operations, maintenance, asset and project management services. The company – with a workforce in excess of 20,000 employees – works across diverse industries including mining, hydrocarbons, transport, water, energy, telecommunications and defence.

Transfield Services owns and maintains a portfolio of power stations across Australia with a total generating capacity of 1,200 megawatts (MW). The company owns and operates three wind farms, including the Windy Hill project which has been operating successfully in the region for over 10 years, and has an interest in a number of wind farm development sites. These assets and sites were acquired from Queensland Government-owned Stanwell Corporation in December 2007.

Transfield also has extensive experience in project development and delivery across Australia, and has formed close relationships with landowners and local communities. The company has an unrivalled track record of working with communities to develop solutions to community issues.

Transfield Services and Port Bajool, together as Mount Emerald Wind Farm Pty Ltd, is assessing the potential for establishing a wind farm on the hilltops of Tablelands along the range between the towns of Mareeba and Walkamin.

The Site

The land on which the wind farm would be developed is primarily cleared and comprises a rough plateau (at 900m) of largely sparse natural shrubland with some rocky outcrops and currently used for any particular purpose. The plateau is elevated some 300m above the surrounding plains which are predominantly used for grazing and agriculture.

The site has been chosen for the following reasons:

- It has an excellent wind resource
- There are few residences in close proximity to the site
- The site is close to the electricity grid, reducing the length of the transmission line
- Preliminary environmental studies indicate a low impact on the environment
- Support for the development from local communities

Wind Monitoring

Wind data has been collected at Mount Emerald for over six months from two wind monitoring towers. Each tower measures wind speed and direction at various heights above the ground as well as recording other standard weather observations. The data collected to date indicates a viable wind resource that could be harnessed to provide a clean renewable energy.

Number of Turbines: 20 to 48, depending on the capacity of the individual wind turbine generators.

Wind Turbine Size: The turbine blades are mounted on tubular steel towers up to 90 metres high, with each blade up to 40m long.

Energy Produced: Approximately 500,000 megawatt hours per year of renewable energy to power the equivalent annual needs of approximately 75,000 North Queensland homes.

Environmental Benefits

The Mount Emerald Wind Farm would reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions by 1.4 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent during a 25-year operating life. This reduction is achieved by replacing fossil fuel energy production with clean renewable wind energy.

Investments in renewable energy are environmentally and commercially sustainable. The Australian Government's renewable energy scheme allows producers of renewable energy to sell the power generated and obtain renewable energy certificates (RECs). Energy retailers are required to purchase RECs to support the generation of renewable energy and achieve renewable energy targets.

Environment & Planning

What is the Planning Process?

The planning process for a wind farm involves several stages as summarised below.

The Mount Emerald Wind Farm is currently at Stage 3. We anticipate the remainder of the process will take up to 12 months to complete.

Environmental Investigations

Mount Emerald Wind Farm has undertaken a range of preliminary environmental investigations of the wind farm site over the last six months. The scope of these studies was guided by the Queensland Government's Environmental Protection and Heritage Council National Wind Farm Development Guidelines (Draft - July 2010), and other best practice guidance. The key findings of these preliminary investigations are summarised below.

Ecology

Flora and fauna investigations and surveys (including birds and bats) undertaken by Ecological Australia in May 2010 identified a number of significant flora and fauna species having the potential to occur at the Mount Emerald site.

An actual on site investigation identified two plant species and one bat species of significant interest.

The conclusion of the ecological assessment to date is that with careful turbine placement and consideration given to the routing of the road and cabling network, the impacts of the wind farm are expected to be of relatively low intensity.

Further studies are planned following the wet season in 2011 to further quantify the utilisation of the site.

Aboriginal and European Heritage

Preliminary heritage investigations have identified no items of cultural heritage significance at the wind farm site.

However, nesting there has been little previous significant ground disturbance over the majority of the area, the potential for aboriginal cultural heritage being present within the study area is considered to be moderate.

A detailed archaeological assessment is now proposed and will include consultation with the Bar Barrum and Mulandi people.

It is expected consultation would result in a cultural heritage survey and a cultural heritage management plan (CHMP) or agreement pursuant to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003.

Aeronautical Risk

Given the wind turbines are likely to have an overall height greater than 110m it will be necessary to investigate the impacts the wind farm will have on aviation activities in the area both during daylight and night time hours.

The Mareeba Airport is located approximately 11km to the northeast of the proposed wind farm and as such impacts on aviation in the area should be further investigated.

Noise and Visual Impact

Please refer to the separate fact sheets for noise and visual.

Noise

The widely accepted requirements for wind farms state that noise levels at residential dwellings not exceed the background noise level by more than 5 decibels or a level of 40 decibels (similar to standing in a quiet household).

These limits are in place such that the noise from a wind farm is not considered annoying by the average person. Before it can commence operation a wind farm must demonstrate that noise levels at neighbouring residences will meet these prescribed noise limits.

The simplest way to manage noise levels at nearby residences is to provide a sufficient "buffer" distance between the turbines and the residence.

A background noise assessment undertaken during 2010 established the current levels of ambient noise in the area of the wind farm. The wind farm layout has been re-designed several times based on the assessment so that noise levels remain within the required limits. This has included the relocation of several turbines away from nearby residences.

A further round of background noise assessment is planned for March/April 2011.

Wind Farm Noise and Health

A recent review by the Independent National Health and Medical Research Council concluded that there is no evidence that wind turbines make nearby residents sick.

This conclusion has also been reached by numerous health agencies around the world including the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Wind turbines limit at household

Visual

A preliminary landscape assessment of the wind farm and its impacts was undertaken in accordance with the Wind Farms and Landscape Values National Assessment Framework, produced by the Australian Council of National Trusts.

It is acknowledged that due to the nature of the landscape in which they are proposed to sit i.e. on a ridgeline surrounded by a relatively flat landscape, the towers will be visible from many locations and little can be done to screen them using natural vegetation and landform. However, it is important to note that the towers will have a low visual prominence from the Kennedy Highway and it can be reasonably assumed the majority of regional traffic will utilise this route.

This apparent change in the visual character of the landscape could be embraced by the local community with the new scheme potentially enhancing ecotourism trails, creating an additional attraction to the area. Given the main tourist route is exposed to only minor visual impacts it can be said that the new infrastructure would give visitors a choice of tourist journeys, taking them either along the Kennedy Highway with relatively untouched landscape character in keeping with the current values of the site or alternatively, the visitor can experience the full scale of the renewable energy project from Chewko Road [illegible]

The wind farm will be visible from various locations in the surrounding area including from residences and roads. Two photomontages have been prepared showing potential views of the wind farm.

A – from the Kennedy Highway Chewko Road intersection near Walkamin (viewpoint 10)
B – near the intersection of Chettle Road and Springmount Road (viewpoint 6)

These montages are a close approximation of the appearance of the wind farm from these two viewpoints. The visual significance of the wind farm will vary from person to person and is largely subjective.

How Wind Farms Work

Wind turbines convert the energy of the wind into electricity. The turbine blades are turned slowly by the wind, and this rotation spins a generator to produce electricity. The electricity travels through transformers and a transmission line into the local electricity network for distribution to consumers.

Almost all commercial wind turbines produce electricity using three blades connected to a hub that rotates around a horizontal axis.

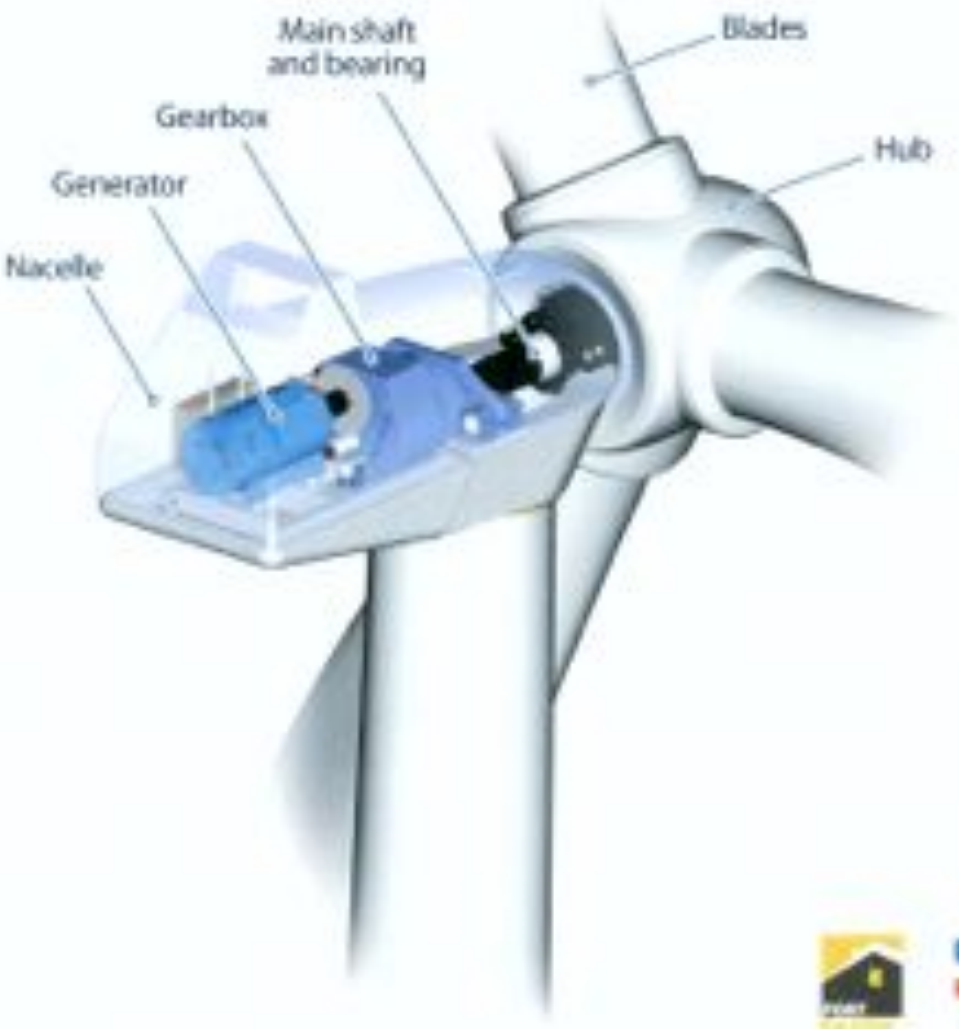
The hub is connected to the gearbox and generator which are located inside the nacelle, the large part on the top of the tower.

The turbine blades and rotor drive a high-speed generator via a step-up gearbox.

The generated electricity passes through cables from the nacelle to the base of the tower. Here it is stepped up to high voltage in a generator transformer for supply to the transmission system.

Each of the turbines connects to the transmission system via the on site substation.

The wind turbines start operating at wind speeds of around 10 kilometres per hour and reach maximum power output at around 48 kilometres per hour. At very high wind speeds, such as gale force winds, the wind turbines shut down to avoid damage to the equipment.



TRANSFIELD

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Mount Emerald Wind Farm is committed to engaging with the community and other stakeholders on all its projects from inception through to operation and decommissioning. Our approach includes the following elements:

- Early and inclusive engagement – our community engagement activities for the Mount Emerald project started at the inception of the development approval process, allowing us to incorporate community feedback into the wind farm design and scoping of the detailed environmental studies
- Open and transparent consultation – Mount Emerald Wind Farm will provide the local community with all relevant information about the project so that they may actively and constructively participate in the project development phase
- Timely and responsive feedback – we have established a stakeholder database, whereby comments are recorded and responded to in a timely manner. We commit to providing feedback to the community on how their comments have influenced the project
- Maximise community benefits – Mount Emerald Wind Farm will work closely with the community and Tablelands Regional Council and other key government departments
- Conflict resolution – Mount Emerald Wind Farm will engage with groups/individuals in an effort to understand concerns and resolve conflict

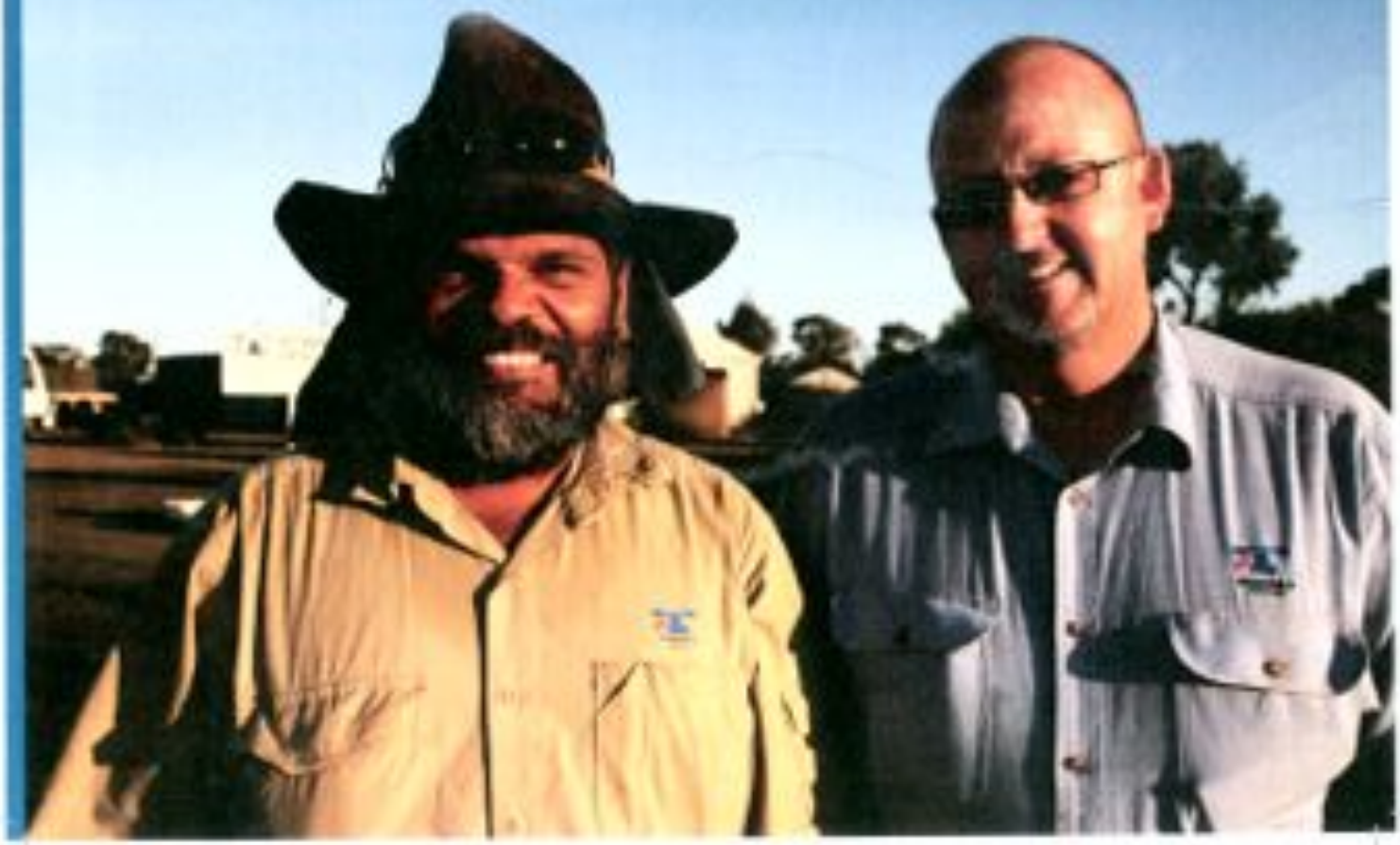
Aboriginal Community Engagement

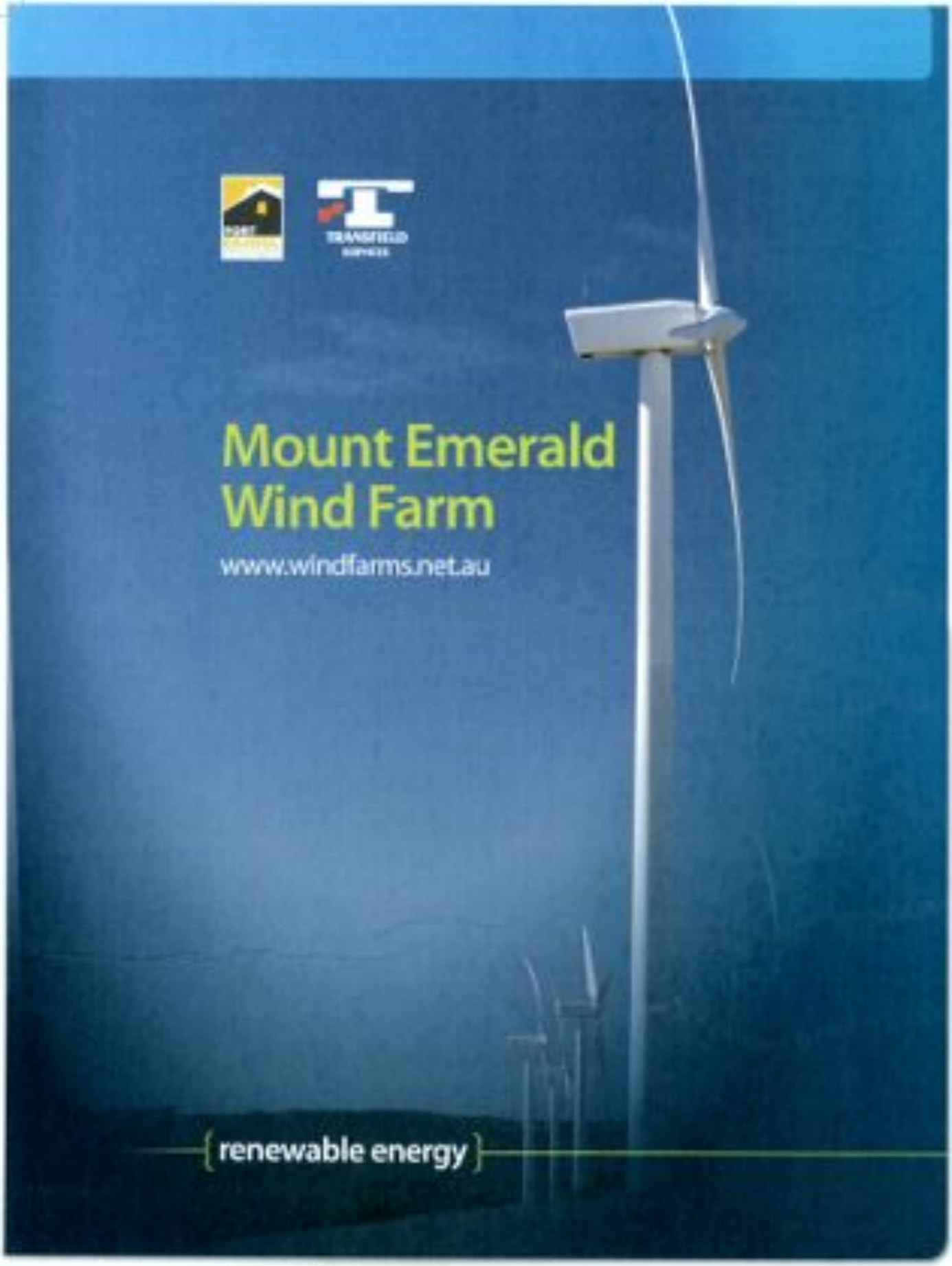
Mount Emerald Wind Farm recognises the local customary needs of Aboriginal people and the significant importance of preserving their culture and customs. The Company is committed to:

- Respecting the values and beliefs of Aboriginal people by creating a Company culture that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal culture, heritage, values and beliefs;
- Understanding the potential impact our business can have on Aboriginal people and their communities by encouraging and building our people awareness and understanding of Aboriginal relations and culture;
- Listening to Aboriginal people and together partnering to ensure mutually beneficial outcomes for Aboriginal communities, our clients, our partners and our business.

Mount Emerald Wind Farm acknowledges Aboriginal people as the original custodians of their lands and therefore their involvement in our business is vital to our success.

Tonkin+Taylor Services Project Manager, Terry Johannesen, can be contacted on (07) 5340 8700 or johannesen@tonkinandtaylor.com.au





For more information

Contact Transfield Services Project Manager Terry Johannsen
on (07) 3248 8755 or johannsent@transfieldservices.com
with any questions.

Mt Emerald Wind Farm
Community Newsletter

Issue 2 – June 2011

Welcome to Issue 2 of the Mt Emerald Wind Farm newsletter.

This newsletter will provide you with an update on the environmental and planning investigations currently underway and further information on the proposed wind farm.

This newsletter follows our first issue circulated in March 2011. Since that time we have undertaken a community open house on 31 March 2011 at the Mareeba Heritage Centre where information on the project was provided to approximately 60 attendees.

Mount Emerald Wind Farm is a Joint venture between Transfield Services and Port Bajool.

Current Activities

A range of detailed studies are currently underway, with investigations being undertaken by expert consultants engaged to perform the work.

These investigations cover areas such as;

- Flora and fauna
- Noise
- Visual
- Aeronautical
- Telecommunications
- Traffic
- Cultural Heritage

It is hoped all of these studies can be completed over the coming months. The information obtained through these reports can then be used to adjust the design of the wind farm and hence ensure the design conforms to the required guidelines.

Community Consultation Update

Thank you to all who attended the Community Open House in March. Since the meeting a number of residents have taken the opportunity to contact us requesting further information or to provide additional feedback. The local community expressed a range of views about the project. This feedback has already proved invaluable with suggested changes incorporated into the layout to reduce the visual impact of the wind farm.

Questions and Answers

At the recent open house and over the past months there have been a number of questions raised regarding the proposed wind farm project. Whilst some of the exact answers cannot be given at this stage as we await the completion of the detailed environmental studies we have tried to provide as best we can to some of the more common requests.

Will aviation lighting (red lights) be required at the Mount Emerald Wind Farm?

Preliminary advice from aviation consultants suggest there is no requirement for night time aviation lighting at Mount Emerald wind farm. However, they do advise that under a general duty of care to aviation, hazard lighting should be installed on sufficient turbines to define the extremities of the site during the period 30 minutes before and after sunrise and sunset, and during conditions of reduced visibility caused by smoke, dust or haze (i.e. lights are NOT generally on overnight). The number of turbines needed to have lights installed to meet this requirement is thought to be approximately 8.

Further work is being undertaken to determine the necessity of this requirement.

What is the proposed construction access route to the wind farm site and how will damage to local roads be repaired?

A traffic and transport assessment is currently being undertaken to examine potential access routes to the wind farm. Preliminary assessment suggests the preferred site access to be from the Kennedy Highway along Hansen Road and Kippin Drive. Expected planning approval conditions will require the wind farm to repair any damage caused to local roads during the construction phase.

How will the visual impact of the wind farm be assessed?

The wind farm will be visible from various locations in the surrounding area. The visual significance of the wind farm will vary from person to person and is largely subjective.

A comprehensive visual impact assessment will be undertaken, including a landscape character assessment, consideration of the visual impact of the wind farm on the local landscape and assessment of any cumulative effects. A series of photomontages will be prepared simulating the appearance of the wind farm from various viewpoints.

Contrary to recent media there are no residences underneath the turbines; with no houses within 1.5 kilometres of a proposed wind turbine.

Will construction and maintenance workers be employed from the local area?

Mount Emerald wind farm will look to recruit skilled construction and maintenance workers from the local area and involve local contractors and suppliers wherever feasible.

The project would generate employment in the local area during construction and operation. Workers required for the project would include plant operators, truck drivers mechanics, fencers, electricians, labourers and other trades typically used in civil construction. It is estimated the onsite workforce would peak at around 120 employees.

Will property values decrease as a result of the wind farm?

A recent study by the NSW Valuer General into the impacts of wind farms on property values concluded that in most cases wind farms do not appear to negatively affect property value.

Who would be responsible for decommissioning the wind farm at the end of its operating life?

The owner of the wind farm will be responsible for the removal at the end of the operating life. Conditions in lease agreements and development approval conditions require the infrastructure to be removed at the end of its life.

How does the noise assessment demonstrate whether the noise level at neighbouring properties is at a safe level prior to installing any turbines?

A computer model of the wind farm site is created using detailed contour data. The locations of the turbines and the residences around the wind farm are added to this model. The noise level emitted by the wind turbine is known and is guaranteed by the manufacturer. This information allows the prediction of the noise at the residences to be made. Depending on the outcome ofthe modelling the layout of the wind turbines is altered to ensure the predicted noise level at the residences is below the required noise limits.

It is proposed for the noise assessment to be undertaken in accordance with the SA Environmental Protection Authority – Wind Farms Environmental Noise Guidelines (2009). Under these guidelines the noise from the wind farm must be below a noise limit that is the greater of 40dBA or background noise plus 5dB.

Background noise is a measure of the existing noise in the environment. Background noise levels are obtained from actual measurements undertaken at residences in the closest proximity to the wind farm.

It should be noted that the above noise limits apply to the area outside of the residence. In Queensland, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implements a policy to protect the noise levels within a residence. This policy must also be conformed to.

Do noise levels change with wind speed?

Yes, both the noise emitted by the wind turbine and the background noise change with wind speed. If there is no wind then the wind turbine will not operate and hence make no noise. As the wind speed increases the sound level of the operating wind turbine will also increase. However, the background noise also increases with wind speed and normally at a rate faster than the noise of the wind turbine.

How will noise levels be monitored during the operational phase of the wind farm and what enforcement is there if levels are exceeded?

The conditions of approval for the development will require the preparation of a Noise Compliance Plan for the operational phase of the project. This would require monitoring of noise levels at nearby residences in the first months of operation to confirm the results of the pre-construction modelling are not exceeded. If noise limits are exceeded, the wind farm is required to take steps to reduce noise levels to comply with the limits. If noise compliance cannot be achieved in a reasonable timeframe then the offending turbines will be removed from operation, under certain conditons.

What studies are being conducted into the health impacts on the community?

A review in July 2010 by the National Health and Medical Research council (NHMRC) concluded that;

> *"There is currently no published scientific evidence to positively link wind turbines with adverse health effects."*

They further recommended that authorities in determining their approval of wind farm projects comply with standards relating to wind turbine design, manufacture and site evaluation to minimise any potential impacts on surrounding areas.

For example, the SA Environmental Protection Authority – Wind Farms Environmental Noise Guidelines (2009) should be used as a relevant standard for assessing noise impacts.

At what wind speeds are the turbines activated or stopped?

Wind turbines commence generating electricity at wind speeds of around 10 km/h and will continue to do so until the wind reaches a speed of 100 km/h. For wind speeds above this, the turbines will cease operation and go into lock-down mode. In this mode the turbines are designed to withstand cyclone force wind speeds.

How often will the turbines be inspected and what is the proposed maintenance regime?

Turbines are subject to regular scheduled maintenance activities on a six-monthly cycle. Turbine operation is monitored 24 hours a day either remotely or via the wind farm control room.

Are overheating problems a risk to wind turbine operation?

Modern wind turbines are able to operate through a large temperature range; generally between -20^{O}C and 50^{O}C. Turbines are fitted with sophisticated electronic controllers which monitor each turbine's operating conditions. If the potential for overheating is detected an emergency stop would be activated.

The wind farm has the potential to supply electricity equivalent to the needs of 75,000 homes. Is this amount of electricity produced at all times?

The figure of 75,000 homes is an average figure based on the expected annual energy generated by the wind farm. Energy generation has been calculated using the data gathered from wind monitoring at the site. When wind speeds are too low to generate energy (below 10 km/h – approx. 5% of the time) no power will be generated. On the other hand, when wind speeds allow maximum generation (above 50km/h – approx. 15% of the time) the wind farm could supply the electricity needs of around 250,000 homes.

Is there a risk of bushfire associated with wind turbines?

There have been a small number of wind turbine fires in Australia; however the over all risk is considered to be low according to organisations such as Victorian Country Fire Authority (CFA). The wind turbines are all connected to a control centre which continuously monitors the operation of each turbine and alerts the operator to any issues.

Each turbine has an in-built lightning protection system to safely dissipate any strike to the ground.

In some ways the wind farm can actually provide benefits to combat bushfire in the area; such as providing road access to areas previously unavailable to vehicles and personnel acting as early detection observers.

For more information

Please contact Mt Emerald Wind Farm Project Manager, Terry Johannesen on **(07) 3248 8765** or **johannesent@transfieldservices.com** with any questions.

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